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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2086)

Name of Candidate	SHIVANSH SINGH		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	1153563
Center	Online	Date	27-08-23

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
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6	10	
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8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

13

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH.**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं **हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी** में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended	Strongly Recommended

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. क्या आप इस विचार से सहमत हैं कि भारत में न्यायिक जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करने के लिए एक नया कानून बनाने की आवश्यकता है?

Do you agree with the view that there is a need to enact a new law for ensuring judicial accountability in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Recent debates around reforming collegium system has brought into limelight the question of judicial accountability.

Arguments in favour of ensuring judicial accountability

1) Collegium is an extra-constitutional body where the Supreme Court judges themselves appoint other judges.

2) This creates a scope of favouratism & nepotism & lacks any objective criteria for selection.

3) There have been instances of judicial overreach i.e. judiciary performing executive functions. Eg – Banning liquor near highways

4) Judiciary is bestowed with vast powers which are required to be kept in check.

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Arguments against

1) Independence of judiciary is part of basic structure of constitution (SC cited in 4th judges cases declaring NJAC unconstitutional)

2) Independence of judiciary is essential to prevent tyranny of ~~cons~~ executive & uphold rule of law.

3) Judiciary is guardian & enforcer of constitution

CJI Chandrachud has rightly said that 'No institution is beyond reform'.

Thus there is need to review judicial accountability while at the same time ensuring its independence.

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2. भारतीय संविधान के लागू होने के बाद से मूल अधिकारों और राज्य की नीति के निदेशक तत्वों (DPSPs) में संवैधानिक रूप से सामंजस्य स्थापित करना एक कठिन कार्य रहा है। प्रासंगिक न्यायिक निर्णयों की सहायता से चर्चा कीजिए।

Constitutionally reconciling Fundamental Rights with the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) has been a tough task since the inception of the Indian Constitution. Discuss with the help of relevant case laws. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Fundamental Rights (FRs) are enforceable part of constitution (Part III) while DPSP (Part IV) are non-enforceable which often poses a question so as to which of them are supreme in case of a conflict.

Conflict in FRs & DPSPs

1) 1st constitutional amendment & addition of 9th Schedule were intended to safeguard some laws from judicial review (for violating FRs) to give effect to DPSP under Article 38 & 39

2) SC in Shankari Prasad case 1951 said that Parliament can amend FRs thus ensuring supremacy of DPSPs.

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3) In Golaknath case 1967, paramountcy of FRs was restored by taking away power to amend FR

4) Finally, a compromise reached in Kesharananda Bharati case 1972 wherein SC said that FRs can be amended for DPSPs but without violating basic structure

5) In Minerva Mills case (1980), SC said that FRs & DPSPs should be implemented harmoniously & gave supremacy to Article 38, 39 over FRs under Article 14, 19.

Thus, as per Minerva Mills verdict FRs & DPSPs must not be seen as conflicting rather in harmony as both of them intend to ensure welfare of Indian citizens.

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3. प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय (PMO) द्वारा किए जाने वाले कार्यों और भारत में नीति-निर्माण को आकार देने में इसकी भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Discuss the functions performed by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and its role in shaping policy-making in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Prime Minister's office (PMO) is an executive body presided by PM with Cabinet Secretary as a member to ensure smooth functioning of government.

Functions performed by PMO

1) Issuing directions to individual ministers & public servants for performing specific duties

2) Issuing directions & decisions taken in cabinet meetings

3) Important decisions regarding reshuffling of portfolio of ministers, immediate action on any emergency situation etc.

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Role in shaping policy-making

1) It brings out the decisions of cabinet in public sphere

2) Policy making through ordinance (Article 123) is announced by PMO

3) Most executive actions are issued by PMO & finally assented to by President.

Thus, PMO plays a pivotal role in policy shaping in India.

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4. भारतीय दंड संहिता (IPC) की धारा 124A के प्रावधानों का पुनरीक्षण करने और उन पर पुनर्विचार करने के लिए नागरिक स्वतंत्रताओं एवं मानवाधिकार संबंधी चिंताओं तथा भारत की संप्रभुता एवं अखंडता को बनाए रखने और उसकी रक्षा करने के बीच संतुलन बनाने की आवश्यकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Re-examination and reconsideration of the provisions of Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) requires striking a balance between concerns of civil liberties and human rights, and maintaining and protecting the sovereignty and integrity of India. Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Section 124A provides for sedition law which is defined as "any words, symbols, gestures etc which excites or attempt to excite disaffection against government established by law."

Recently, SC in S.G. Vombatkere v/s Union of India (2022) case ~~co~~ held section 124A in abeyance & asked government to reconsider its provisions.

Need for sedition law

1) Protecting sovereignty & integrity of India

2) Ensuring security of state

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3) Fighting covert terrorism
4) Reasonable restrictions allowed under Article 19(2)

Concerns with sedition law

1) Infringing upon the fundamental right of freedom of speech & expression
2) Endangers personal liberty (Article 21)
3) Ambigious definition of 'sedition'
4) Prone to misuse for executive interests

Way ahead

1) SC in Kedarnath Singh case (1962), suggested replacing the word 'disaffection' with 'violence'
2) Law commission recommendations —
   i) Mandatory prelimnary enquiry by inspector
   ii) Increasing punishment from 3 to 7 years
   iii) Implement suggestion of Kedarnath

CJI says 'Dissent is safety valve of democracy' thus there is need to balance civil rights & national security

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5. "ग्रामीण भारत में ई-गवर्नेंस पहलों की सफलता के लिए नागरिक भागीदारी महत्वपूर्ण है।" टिप्पणी कीजिए।
"Citizen participation is key to the success of e-governance initiatives in rural India." Comment. (Answer in 150 words) 10

As per 2nd ARC, e-governance refers to use of ICT in governance in order to enhance the effectiveness & productivity of public service delivery

Importance of citizen participation

1) Awareness of citizens is necessary to ensure effective utilisation of online resources.

2) As citizens are the ultimate beneficiaries, their acceptance of technology is vital for public service delivery

3) It ensures last mile delivery of services

4) Cost effective & efficient implementation of schemes

5) It ensures regular feedback from

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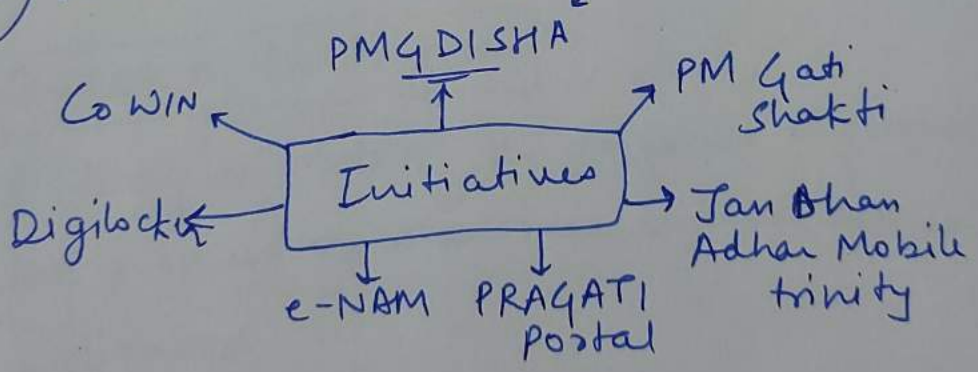
citizens & swift action on grievances.

Challenges

1) Low internet access (around 40% population do not have access)
2) Digital divide on gender basis [46% women have internet as against 65% men as per NFHS-5]
3) Non-standardisation of e-governance
4) Siloisation of govt. departments
5) Low awareness & digital literacy



Thus, e-governance holds the key to citizen centric administration.

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6. आपके अनुसार आकांक्षी जिला कार्यक्रम अपनी शुरूआत के बाद से अपने उद्देश्यों की प्राप्ति में कितना सफल रहा है?

How far do you think the Aspirational District Programme has been able to achieve its objectives since its inception? (Answer in 150 words) 10

NITI Aayog formulated the Aspirational Districts Programme currently covering 112 backward districts of the country.

Objective

1) Ensuring the development of these districts is at par with other districts of the state

2) Ensuring progress w.r.t education, health, nutrition, agriculture & basic infrastructure

Success of the Program

1) Many districts of the program reported improvement on most human development indicators

2) Some of the districts even emerged as models for neighbouring districts.

margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Challenges

1) 90% of the districts covered under it are Naxal affected areas & most of them still remain underdeveloped due to Left Wing Extremism

2) Delayed devolution of funds is an issue.

3) Non-convergence with other development schemes

4) Private sector participation is very less.

Recently, aspirational block program was launched covering 500 most backward blocks in these districts thus providing fresh & targeted impetus to regional development.

margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. NGO क्षेत्रक को आगे बढ़ाने और लाभार्थियों के लिए आउटकम्स को बेहतर बनाने में प्रौद्योगिकी की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण है। उदाहरण सहित विवेचना कीजिए।
Technology has a crucial role to play in advancing the NGO sector and improving outcomes for beneficiaries. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10

NGO refers to any organization outside the government which is a Not for profit organization & also not simply a political party as per UN.

Technology advancing the NGO sector

1) Mrida Education & Welfare actively uses digital platform to provide informal education to underprivileged children.

2) NGO Kruthi helped Koya tribe in devising textbooks in vernacular language using AI

3) Sikshasandhan NGO provides online education to tribal children

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of Lodha & Dongria Khond community in naxal affected regions of Odisha.

Benefits of using technology

1) Reaching the last mile ~~delivery~~
2) Greater penetration of government schemes with helps from NGOs
3) Ensure equitable development of under developed regions

Thus, technology in NGO sector promotes the Saptrishi goal of Reaching the last mile.

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8. तकनीकी और उच्चतर शिक्षा के लिए विदेशी शिक्षण संस्थानों के भारत में प्रवेश से जुड़े निहितार्थों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Discuss the implications associated with the entry of foreign educational institutions for technical and higher education in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Recently, Deakin University of Australia announced that it will set up an overseas campus in India.

Benefits of foreign educational institution

1) Provides world class education to Indian population
2) Saves cost of accessing the education in host country
3) Easy ~~in~~ integration of the workforce in global employment opportunities
4) Promotes collaboration among the partnering nations.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5) Development of new technology in collaboration with domestic institutions

6) Learning from best practices around the world.

Challenges

1) Lack of access to a large population

2) Further exacerbate inequalities

3) Foreign education may not align with indian requirements.

Despite the challenges, these institutions provides an opportunity for educating versatile & future ready Indians.

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9. भारत और लैटिन अमेरिका के देशों के बीच फलता-फूलता संबंध भारत की विदेश नीति का एक महत्वपूर्ण भाग बन गया है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

The flourishing relationship between India and countries of Latin America has become a critical element of India's foreign policy. Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Relationship between India & Latin countries has flourished in recent times which provides opportunity for multifacted development.

Importance of Latin American countries

1) Crucial supplier of crude oil

Eg - Venezuela

2) Necessary for cooperating on international fora as voice of global south.

3) Shared concerns of developing economy, climate change, maritime security etc.

margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4) Shared principles of democracy & rule based world order - Eg - Brazil

5) Important from the perspective of Indian diaspora residing in the countries.

Thus, the mutual cooperation will further boost the prosperity & economy of India.

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10. ऋण-जाल कूटनीति क्या है? चीन की ऋण-जाल कूटनीति भारत के पड़ोस में भारतीय हितों को कैसे प्रभावित करती है?

What is debt-trap diplomacy? How does China's debt-trap diplomacy impact India's interests in its neighbourhood? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Debt trap diplomacy refers to giving large unsustainable loans with a ulterior intention to trap the smaller nation as it would be unable to repay & infringing upon its sovereignty.

China's debt trap diplomacy

1) Unsustainable loans to Sri Lanka & subsequently taking over its Hambantota port on lease for 99 yrs.

2) Control over Sittwe port & Chittagong port by investing in their development

3) Taking over military base in Djibouti using debt trap diplomacy.

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4) Creating a 'string of pearls' in Indian Ocean Region around India

Implications for India

1) Neighbours dependent on China
2) Ports near India used for strategically spying on India Eg – In cocos island close to Andaman & Nicobar islands.

Steps to counter China's policy

- SAGAR initiative
- Project Mausam
- Kaladan project
- Colombo security conclave
- Cooperation in SAARC, BIMSTEC, BBIN etc
- 'Necklace of diamonds'

Thus, enhanced cooperation with neighbours is essential for countering China in ~~to~~ Indian Ocean Region.

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11. विश्व भर के विभिन्न संविधानों का मिश्रण होने के बावजूद, भारतीय संविधान अपने विभिन्न प्रावधानों के माध्यम से सामाजिक न्याय, बहुलवाद और समानता को आत्मसात किए हुए है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Despite being an amalgamation of various constitutions from across the world, the Indian Constitution imbibes social justice, pluralism, and equality through its various provisions. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Dr. BR Ambedkar proudly said in Constituent Assembly that our Constitution was framed after ransacking about 60 constitutions of the world.

How our constitution is an amalgamation

1) Parliamentary form of government, rule of law etc taken from Britain
2) Fundamental Rights, impeachment of President, office of Vice President taken from US constitution
3) DPSP taken from Irish constitution
4) Unitary bias in federal polity from canadian constitution.

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5) Procedure established by law from Japanese constitution

6) Constitutional amendment procedure from South African constitution.

Various provisions highlighting core ideals of constitution

1) Social justice - largely by DPSP (Part IV) under Article 38 (govt must ensure social, economic & political justice) & Article 39 (equal opportunities for all). Further, Article 41 (public assistance), Article 42 (maternity benefit) etc. also promote social justice.

2) Pluralism - By promising Right to Freedom of Religion as a Fundamental Right (Article 25-28), respecting minorities (Article 29-30), prohibiting

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discrimination (Article 15 & 16).

3) Equality - Article 14 [Equality before law & equal protection of laws] ensuring equal protection of rights along with positive discrimination.

Further Article 15 & 16 prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth.

Thus, although our constitution is amalgamation of various other constitutions yet socialistic, ~~federal~~ equality, secular principles are deeply imbibed in it as also declared by our preamble.

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12. हाल के कुछ घटनाक्रमों ने भारत में वैवाहिक बलात्कार को अपराध घोषित करने के मुद्दे को प्रकाश में लाया है। देश में वैवाहिक बलात्कार के पीड़ितों के लिए कानूनी संरक्षण सुनिश्चित करने के निहितार्थों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Recent developments have brought to light the issue of criminalizing marital rape in India. Analyse the implications of ensuring legal protection for victims of marital rape in the country. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Marital rape refers to unconsensual sexual relationship between husband & wife on the pretext of marriage.

12. हाल

Positives of legal protection for victims of marital rape

1) It ensures right to equality (Article 14) before law as difference on the basis of marriage is an arbitrary classification

2) It ensure bodily autonomy to females thus respecting their right to life & personal liberty (Article 21)

3) Rape must be construed as rape no matter what the context

4) Strengthens existing legislations like

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Prohibition of dowry act 1961, Domestic violence act 2005 etc

5) Ensures sustainable population growth as women are empowered w.r.t to their body

Challenges of legal protection

1) Threatens to disrupt the social fabric of marriage which is a part of personal sphere.

2) Prone to misuse by filing false cases to extort money

3) Whether or not live-in relationships be a part of marriage under the legislation.

4) Political backlash as it could be seen as intrusion in personal laws

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of various religions. Eg - Islamic laws prescribes 15 yrs as age of marriage

5) Whether or not the legislation should ~~not~~ be gender neutral as traditionally only females are seen as victims of marital rape.

Way ahead

1) Balancing between bodily autonomy & personal liberty along with sanctity of institution of marriage

2) Debates & discussion on the issue along with public consultation

3) Recently, Kerala high court declared marital rape as a ground for filing for divorce

Thus, the issue of marital rape must be dealt with utmost caution.

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13. "संघवाद के भारतीय मॉडल की अत्यधिक केंद्रीकृत होने के कारण आलोचना की जाती है, लेकिन यह राज्यों को पर्याप्त अवसर और स्वायत्तता भी प्रदान करता है।" विश्लेषण कीजिए।

"The Indian model of federalism has been criticized for being too centralized, but it also provides adequate space and autonomy to the states." Analyse. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Indian model of federalism has often been referred to as 'quasi-federal', 'federal with unitary bias' & 'sui-generis'.

Unitary features of Indian federalism

1) Single citizenship (dual in USA)

2) office of Governor (appointed by centre but heads the state)

3) Emergency provisions (Article 352-360) where the ~~constiti~~ polity becomes completely unitary which is a unique feature of India.

4) Creation & abolition of states by simple majority in Parliament

anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

under Article 2 & 3.

5) Office of CAG (appointed by centre but audits accounts of both centre & states)

6) Integrated judiciary (SC at apex)

7) Residuary powers part of Union list (Entry 97)

Federal features respecting autonomy & space of states

1) Federal polity where states also derive their ~~constita~~ powers from constitution

2) Relatively rigid constitution & assent of half states necessary for amending federal provisions

3) Finance Commission of India (FCI) acting as balancing wheel of fiscal federalism (Article 280).

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4) Article 263 provides for Inter State Council for active cooperation between centre & states

5) GST council with representation from each state

6) Consultation with state prior to changing its boundry

7) Zonal councils for 5 regions & NE council chaired by Home Minister to ensure collaboration among states.

Way forward

1) Sakaria commission → Security of ~~Fixing~~ tenure of governor
→ President to mandatorily consult CM for appointment ~~of~~ of governor

2) Punchhi commission → Impeachment procedure for governor as well
→ Fixed time to assent to state bills (60 days)

Thus, we need to balance autonomy of states with national sovereignty & unity.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. भारतीय निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) में नियुक्तियों को लेकर उच्चतम न्यायालय के हालिया निर्णय ने नियुक्ति प्रक्रिया को मूल रूप से बदल दिया है और इसके संभावित दूरगामी निहितार्थ भी हो सकते हैं। विवेचना कीजिए।

The recent judgment of the Supreme Court on appointments to the Election Commission of India (ECI) has fundamentally changed the appointment process and can have potentially far-reaching implications. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Election Commission of India is a constitutional body formed under Article 324 for conducting & superintendance of elections to Parliament & State Legislative assemblies.

Issues with current appointment system in Election Commission

1) The appointment was done unilaterally by executive wherein law minister recommended names to PM & he finally recommends one of them to President

2) Security of tenure was there only for Chief EC & not ECs.
(5yrs/65yrs)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3) Reappointment by GoI hampers transparency of ECI

4) Appointment of serving bureaucrats in election commission.

5) No power to deregistr political parties.

Supreme Court in 2022 directed the government in its judgement that henceforth the appointment of CEC & ECs will be done on recommendation of a committee consisting of —

i) Prime Minister

ii) Leader of Opposition

iii) Chief Justice of India

Supreme Court cited the reason for verdict as —

i) To fill 'legislative lacunae' as constitution empowers Parliament but no law made in this regard.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

ii) Parliament is free to bring in a legislation for a proper appointment procedure for Election Commissioners.

Implications of judgement

1) Transparency of ECI is ensured
2) Reinforcing the role of ECI as watchdog of democracy in India
3) Promoting checks & balances to check undue influence of executive
4) Participative procedure of selection

Recently, government tabled a bill in Rajya Sabha changing committee composition as —

i) Prime Minister
ii) Leader of Opposition
iii) Cabinet Minister appointed by PM

Thus, the bill should be subjected to due deliberations before reaching a final law.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. वैश्विक बदलावों के साथ समेकन और अर्थव्यवस्था के खुलने के परिणामस्वरूप लोक सेवाओं के लिए विविध चुनौतियां उत्पन्न हो गई हैं, जिनके कारण कुशल सेवा वितरण के लिए उनमें समग्र सुधारों की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

Integration with the global trends and opening up of the economy has resulted in diversified challenges for the civil services, which require holistic reforms for efficient service delivery. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Civil services in India have often been referred to as a 'steel frame' but with opening up of economy, the civil services face unprecedented challenges.

Diversified challenges due to globalisation

1) Advent of modern technology - Civil servants are required to be well-versed with upcoming technologies to ensure effective governance

2) New & emerging threats - Opening of economy leads to threats of money laundering & cyber attacks.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3) Cross border terrorism - Opening up of borders also leads to infiltration of terrorists in the country

4) Threats of radicalisation & disrupting public order by hosting misinformation on social media. Eg - Manipur crisis

5) Challenges to national economy due to global headwinds & volatile exchange rate

6) Prevailing corruption, red-tapism, bureaucratic delays, favouritism, opaqueness etc. in the civil services

~~Need of~~ holistic reforms

1) To make the civil servants more agile & efficient, 2nd ARC suggests reducing maximum ~~&~~ attempts & age

2) Mid-career training to catch up with new technologies (2nd ARC)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3) Induction into services for 10 yrs followed by retaining a certain percentage purely on basis of performance (2nd ARC)

4) Civil Services Board to ensure transparency in posting & transfer of civil servants (TSR Subramanian case).

5) Compulsory retirement for underperforming civil servants (2nd ARC)

6) Recently government launched Mission Karmayogi to holistically train the civil servants for tackling modern day challenges (through its online platform iGOT)

Thus, all these steps are needed to prevent the ~~stell~~ steel frame from rusting

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. भारत में ई-गवर्नेंस में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेहिता को बढ़ावा देने में ओपन डेटा क्या भूमिका निभा सकता है? देश में ओपन डेटा की गुणवत्ता और विश्वसनीयता सुनिश्चित करने में कौन-सी चुनौतियां विद्यमान हैं?

What role can open data play in promoting transparency and accountability in e-governance in India? What are the challenges in ensuring the quality and reliability of open data in the country? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Transparency & accountability are the primary facets for ensuring effective e-governance & open data plays a pivotal role to ensure it.

Role of open data

1) It leads to public scrutiny of public policies & programs. Eg - PRAGATI portal

2) Provides government with accurate data for effective implementation of schemes. Eg - land records in SVAMITVA

3) Citizens can rectify their data easily & as per requirement thus reducing discrepancies.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

4) Resolves inclusion/exclusion errors & accurate inclusion of beneficiaries. Eg - PDS

5) Publicly available information regarding financial assets & interests of politicians & civil servants promotes accountability

6) Ensures citizen centric governance

Challenges

1) Open data may be prone to ~~use~~ misuse by criminals.

2) False claims over the ~~data~~ details will lead more burdening of already overburdened judiciary

3) Lack of access to internet (48% population do not have access) hampers quality & accuracy of data

4) Low digital literacy & awareness among the masses.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5) Balancing between transparency & accountability of government along with national security & public order.

Way Ahead

1) Educating the masses in digital technology (PMGDISHA)

2) Public Wi Fi by government to ensure digital inclusivity

3) Proactively notifying citizens to confirm the open available data

4) ICT infrastructure & proper cyber security.

These steps will ensure that our e-governance will fulfill the vision of Amritkaal.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. भारत में 'जीरो फूड' बच्चों की व्यापकता को कम करने के लिए मातृ पोषण को प्राथमिकता देने की आवश्यकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

To reduce the prevalence of 'zero food' children in India, maternal nutrition needs to be made a priority. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

India ranked 107/121 on Global Hunger Index which highlights the issue of food security in India especially among children.

Prevalence of 'zero food' children

1) As per NFHS-5, 32% children are underweight, 35% children are wasted & 19% children are stunted.

2) NFHS-5 also highlighted the issue of nutritional deficiency among children especially anaemia which has worsened.

3) 'Zero food' refers to a situation where children are unable to get any meal for one or more time.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Importance of maternal nutrition

1) Most of the physical & mental development takes place in womb of the mother

2) Maternal nutrition ensures proper nutrition of breastfeeding children.

3) Poor maternal nutrition is often associated high IMR & MMR

4) It also serves the purpose of fulfilling of nutritional need of women in India

5) As per NFHS-5, 59% women are anaemic India.

Measures to ensure maternal nutrition

1) Maternal nutrition is an essential component of Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2) Inclusion of millets in POSHAN 2.0

3) PM Matru Vandana Yojana provides ₹5000 cash benefit to mothers on birth of 1st child.

4) PM Janani Suraksha Yojana

5) Maintaining a real time database of all pregnant ~~mothers~~ women & ~~pregnant~~ recent mothers to ensure targetted delivery & better identification of beneficiary.

6) Digital inclusion & role of e-governance for monitoring implementation of schemes via social audit.

Thus, nutritional security of mothers will have cascading effect & will lead to nutritional security of entire India (SDG-2).

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. हाल ही में, केंद्र सरकार ने दुर्लभ रोगों के उपचार हेतु व्यक्तिगत उपयोग के लिए आयातित सभी खाद्य सामग्रियों और दवाओं को सीमा शुल्क से छूट प्रदान की है। भारत में लोक स्वास्थ्य के मुद्दे के रूप में दुर्लभ रोगों से संबंधित चिंताएं क्या हैं? इनका किस प्रकार समाधान किया जा सकता है?

Recently, the Central government exempted all foods and drugs for rare diseases imported by people for personal use from customs duty. What are the concerns related to rare diseases as a public health issue in India? How can these be resolved? (Answer in 250 words) 15

As per WHO, a rare disease is a disease whose prevalence ~~too~~ is less than 0.5% in a population.

Concerns related to rare diseases

1) lack of proper healthcare infrastructure to provide treatment for such diseases.

2) Expensive medicines due to its rare nature

3) Unavailability of drugs & medicines in domestic market

4) Large out of pocket expenditure on treatment of rare diseases which a normal citizen cannot afford

5) low expertise among healthcare

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professionals about the symptoms & diagnosis of such diseases.

6) Difficult to eradicate as many of them are genetic in nature & thus persists in generations.

7) Lack of standard guidelines to deal with such diseases.

Steps to resolve these issues

1) Removal of custom duty on their import is a commendable step

2) Providing benefits to such patients under a separate category & government sharing a part of their expenditure based on their economic condition.

3) Incentivising pharmaceutical industry to produce such drugs domestically

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4) Cooperation with other nations for easy import of the drugs.

5) Specialisation in rare diseases can be created on MD level of education.

These steps would ensure inclusive development & further the Saptrishi goal of inclusive growth.

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19. हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में यथार्थवादी और प्रभावी सहयोग के लिए, इस क्षेत्र से संबंधित विभिन्न देशों के प्रमुख हितों को स्वीकार करने और उनकी पहचान करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।
For realistic and effective collaborations to take place in the Indo-Pacific region, there is a need to acknowledge and recognize the underlining intention of the various countries with stakes in the region. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Indo-Pacific region is often debated but generally agreed to extend from Eastern coast of ~~West~~ East Africa to Western Pacific.

Various countries & their stakes in the region

1) India - located almost strategically at the centre of Indian ocean our interests in the region include:

i) 90% of our international trade passes through the IOR

ii) It is essential for our maritime security

iii) Presence of manganese rich polymetallic modules & India recently

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

got right from ISA to mine them.

iv) Many of our steel industries, power plants are located in coastal region

2) China is trying to exert its influence in IOR through policies like String of Pearls & BRI undermining the interests of India. Moreover, it claims 90% of South China through its 9 dash line

3) Eastern African countries like Somalia & islands like Mauritius want to ensure maritime security & curb illegal trade.

4) South Asian Countries are largely affected by climate change & assertion of China.

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5) South East Asian nations are concerned over Strait of Malacca as it is a strategic corridor for passage of most of international trade

Collaborations among IOR countries

1) Security & growth for all in the Region (SAGAR) initiative by India to ensure maritime & trade security

2) Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) - Indian, Sri Lanka, Maldives & Mauritius

3) Groupings like SAARC, BIMSTEC & ASEAN

4) RCEP & IPEF for economic cooperation in IOR

5) Project Mausam for cultural connection.

Thus, balancing the interest of various stakeholders is necessary for equitable development of IOR.

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20. भारत और उसके पड़ोसियों के बीच एक महत्वपूर्ण संपर्क स्थल के रूप में स्थापित होने से पहले, भारत को अपने पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र की आंतरिक और बाह्य दोनों तरह की अंतर्निहित चुनौतियों का समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

There is a need to address the underlying challenges, both internal and external, in the North-Eastern region of India before it can serve as a pivotal connecting space between India and its neighbours. Comment. (Answer in 250 words) 15

North-Eastern region of India shares 99% of its borders with other nations which provides an opportunity to connect with neighbours but it has security implications as well.

Internal & external challenges in NE India

1) Internal - i) Ethnic conflict among different tribes. Eg - Kuki - Meitei conflict

ii) Organized crime in the region like drug cartels in Tripura, Meghalaya

iii) Difficult terrain & porous borders act as impediment for development activities.

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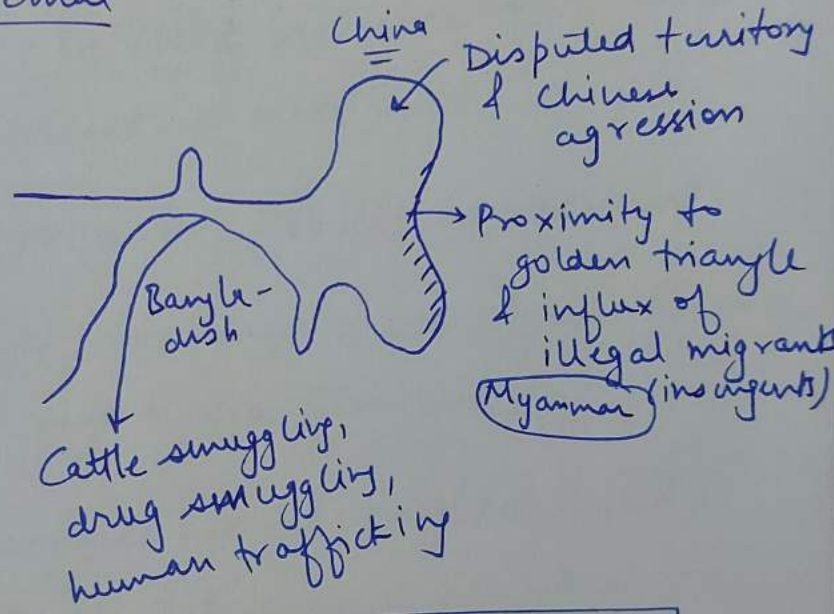
iv) Nexus between politicians & organized criminals & also with insurgents

v) Low penetration of industries (20%) and less employment opportunities

2) External



Initiatives to adress the challenges

1) Operation All Clear with Bangladesh & Operation Sun Rise with Myanmar to drive out insurgents

2) Kaladan multimodal project connecting Kolkata to Sittwe port

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in Myanmar & to Mizoram via Kaladan river

3) India Myanmar Thailand trilateral highway from Moreh in Manipur to Maesot in Thailand

4) PM-DeVINE scheme for holistic development of northeast

5) BBIN motor vehicle agreement

6) Ganga Vilas river cruise from Varanasi to Dibrugarh via Bangladesh

These connectivity & development initiatives will ensure holistic development of NE & fresh impetus to our Act East Policy.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2420)

Name of Candidate	SHIVANSH SINGH		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	1153563
Center	Online	Date	22-08-23

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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13	15	
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15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH.**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं **हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी** में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended	Strongly Recommended

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. भारत में राज्यों की राजकोषीय स्थिरता से संबंधित मौजूदा मुद्दों का परीक्षण कीजिए। इन मुद्दों के समाधान हेतु किन उपायों की आवश्यकता है?

Examine the persisting issues related to fiscal stability of states in India. What measures are needed to address these issues? (Answer in 150 words) 10

As per Economic Survey, the debt to GDP ratio for states (combined) in FY 22-23 has remained 29.5% (20% recommended by FRBM).

Persisting issues related to fiscal stability of states

1) low revenue collection & high dependence on centre for funds (especially poorer states)

2) Asymmetry in devolution of discretionary grants under Article 282

3) Populist schemes by various states to garner votes resulting in high debt to GDP ratio. Eg - Free electricity in Punjab

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4) Poor demography management by some states (UP, Bihar etc.) leading to higher revenue expenditure

5) Higher loans resulting in increased ~~revenue ex~~ interest payments in subsequent years thus perpetuating fiscal instability.

Measures needed/govt. steps

1) One year extension for capex loans of ₹1 lakh crore to states with interest free repayment for 50 years.

2) Restricting extra budgetary borrowing to 0.5% of SGDP.

3) Extra budgetary borrowing to be shown in budget of states

4) Phasing out effective revenue deficit.

These steps would help India to become $5 trillion economy by 2025.

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2. उत्पादन से संबद्ध प्रोत्साहन (PLI) योजना आत्मनिर्भर भारत के लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति हेतु सरकार की प्रकार सहायता कर सकती है? इसके उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में आने वाली चुनौतियाँ क्या है?
How can the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme help in achieving an Atmanirbhar Bharat? What are the challenges in realizing its objectives? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Central government has announced Production Linked Incentives (PLI) for 13 emerging sectors to foster indigenous production.

Production linked Incentive (PLI) is given as 4% to 6% on incremental sales (post sale) & is announced for a 5 year period (2020-25)

PLI contribution to ~~Ar~~ Atmanirbhar Bharat

1) PLI will bring in much needed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) thus boosting indigenous economy

2) PLI in sectors like Food Processing Industries will lead to more employment

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of semi-skilled labour & adress the issue of unemployment.

3) In sectors like automobile & semiconductors, PLI will help in India acquiring latest cutting edge technology

Challenges with PLI

1) low availability of skilled workforce
2) Bureaucratic delays & red tapism
3) Land acquisition & environmental clearances quite cumbersome
4) Late devolution of funds

Way ahead
- → Equal emphasis on upskilling (Skill India)
- → Single window clearance
- → Fostering PPP

Recent announcement of Micron technology (US) setting up a semiconductor plant in Gujarat is definitely a boost to realising self sufficiency

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3. जलवायु परिवर्तन में वृद्धि से मोटे अनाज की खेती का पुनरुद्धार किस प्रकार हो रहा है? भारत में मोटे अनाज के उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

How is the advent of climate change leading to the revival of cultivation of millets? What steps have been taken by the government to give an impetus to millet production in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

The year of 2023 has been recognised by UN as International Year on Millets.

India is the largest producer of millets with 20% share of the world.

Climate change leading to revival of millets

1) Climate change has rendered droughts more rampant & most millets (jowar, bajra, ragi etc) are drought resistant

2) Millets are more resistant to fluctuating climate than conventional crops.

3) Instances of heatwave are on the rise throughout the world & most

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millets can withstand heatwaves.

4) lower maturity period reduces climate related uncertainity

Other benefits of millets
- → low glycemic index
- → Ensures nutritional security
- → Can be used as biofuel (Jowar)

Govt. steps to boost millet production

1) Price Support Scheme - to aid farmers growing millets

2) National Mission on Millets to boost millet production

3) Inclusion of millets in PDS

4) Strategy devised by APEDA to promote exports of millets.

These steps would help in realizing the goal of SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)

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4. चारे की खराब गुणवत्ता और उसकी अपर्याप्त उपलब्धता भारत में पशुधन की कम उत्पादकता के लिए उत्तरदायी प्रमुख कारण हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।
Poor quality and inadequate availability of feeds and fodder are the major reasons behind the low productivity of the livestock in India. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Livestock in India has remained one of the most inefficient & least productive in the world.

Reasons for low productivity

1) Poor policy implementation

2) No proper maintenance of livestock (vaccination, hygiene) & poor compliance with Animal Husbandry standards.

3) Poor quality & inadequate availability of feeds & fodder has emerged as one of the primary issue because —

i) Poor quality of feeds results in lower weight of livestock & increased

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susceptibility to diseases.

ii) Inadequate availability leads to malnutrition & hunger which results in ~~low~~ production of milk, meat etc. along with poor quality

iii) Feeds & fodder diverted for other purposes like biomass production further aggravate the issue.

Solution/Way ahead

1) Promotion of integrated farming system ⇒ utilization of farm waste as feed

2) PM Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana

3) Proper monitoring for compliance with standard guidelines.

These steps will help in realise the vision of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

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5. एकीकृत कीट प्रबंधन (IPM) क्या है? IPM के उद्देश्यों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इसके विभिन्न घटकों पर चर्चा कीजिए।
What is Integrated Pest Management (IPM)? State its objectives and discuss its various components. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Integrated Pest Management refers to comprehensive approach for eliminating different pests & boosting overall farm production.

Objectives

1) Reducing efforts of farmer
2) Devising pesticides that ensure comprehensive protection of crops
3) Boost in agricultural productivity
4) Managing pests & providing nutrients to the crop at the same time
5) Increasing farmer income

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Components

1) Beejamrit → Using neem leaves along with green chillies as a natural pesticide for a variety of crops. (using farm produce)

2) Mulching → to help soil retaining its moisture & eliminating pests at the same time.

Govt steps
- → PM Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana
- → NPOP
- → PM KISAN
- → PM FBY

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a crucial step in ~~mar~~ making India the leading agricultural exporter in the world.

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6. आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग के महत्व की व्याख्या कीजिए। भारत ने आपदाओं को कम करने के लिए क्षेत्रीय सहयोग को मजबूत करने के लिए क्या पहल की है?

Explain the significance of international cooperation in disaster risk reduction. What initiatives has India taken to strengthen regional cooperation for reducing disasters? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Disaster Risk Reduction is an essential component of ~~Santiago~~ Sendai framework ~~(2015~~ 2030) which is an international initial to enhance disaster resilience.

Significance of international cooperation

1) Learning from best practices around the world Eg - Japan using energy dissipating devices beneath its buildings to mitigate earthquake risk

2) Disasters are now becoming trans-national in nature thus there is need of active cooperation. Eg - Floods in India & Sri Lanka

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3) Adoption of latest technology

4) Mobilisation of funds to help poorer nations maintain & disaster resilience

Initiatives of India

1) Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)

2) National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to frame policies, regulations & guidelines for disaster management.

3) Active cooperation on fora like BIMSTEC, G-20, BBIN etc

Thus, international cooperation is necessary for all round protection of the entire world (Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam).

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7. अत्यधिक और अविवेकपूर्ण रेत खनन की पारिस्थितिक लागत इसके आर्थिक लाभों से कहीं अधिक है। संधारणीय रेत खनन के महत्व के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।
The ecological cost of excessive and indiscriminate sand mining far outweighs its economic benefits. Discuss in context of the importance of sustainable sand mining. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Sand is an essential minor mineral which find uses in a variety of activities.

Economic benefits of sand mining

1) Sand is an important construction material used in building construction

2) Sand mining ~~provides~~ generates employement & revenue for government.

3) Sand from river bed can only be used in construction due to its moisture & binding ~~produc~~ property unlike desert sand

4) It is used in fertilizer manufacturing

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Harmful effect of indiscriminate sand mining

1) It lowers the water level

2) lowering of river level can lead to water scarcity in agriculture

3) It can lead to groundwater pollution

4) It disrupts marine ecosystem

5) It can increase the flow of river increasing instances of floods.

Thus, sustainable land mining is need of the hour.

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8. थिएटराइजेशन योजनाओं के पीछे निहित तर्क पर चर्चा कीजिए, जो भारत में रक्षा बलों को विशिष्ट थिएटर कमांड में एकीकृत करना है। इससे जुड़ी चुनौतियां क्या हैं?

Discuss the rationale behind theaterisation plans, which seek to integrate the defence forces into specific theatre commands in India. What are the associated challenges? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Shekhar committee has recommended for theaterisation of commands which is already existing Andaman & Nicobar islands & strategic command (nuclear sector).

Rationale behind theaterisation

1) Creation of a unified command under a single commander converging the army, navy & air force in a region.

2) It would lead to creation of region specific commands (Western → Pakistan border, eastern & maritime (IOR)) each of which will specialise in their operations.

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3) It would lead to enhanced efficiency.

4) Effective utilization military resources.

5) Make our defence forces more strongu

6) Makes India a world leader in defence

Challenges

1) Little prior experience

2) low defence spending (reduced in recent budget)

3) Interoperability challenges

4) No clear chain of command

5) low clarity on who lead the command.

Despite these challenges, theatrisation will enhance India's defence sector & recent creation of Chief of Defence Staff post is a step in right direction.

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9. व्याख्या कीजिए कि धन शोधन (मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग) के लिए शेल कंपनियों का उपयोग कैसे किया जाता है। भारत में धन शोधन के लिए शेल कंपनियों के उपयोग को रोकने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए गए है?

Describe how shell companies are used for money laundering. What steps have been taken to curb the use of shell companies for money laundering in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Money laundering refers to the process of converting illegitimate funds (proceeds of crime) into legitimate ones by concealing their true source of origin.

Shell companies are fake companies which exist only on paper & perform no real business activities.

Shell companies as a medium of money laundering

1) Placement stage → Large funds are broken into smaller funds & shown as investment in shell companies.

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2) Layering stage → Complex transaction among various shell companies are performed where funds are moved to & fro quickly to conceal their origin.

3) Integration stage → The funds from shell companies are now transfered to legitimate financial institutions.

Steps taken by government

1) Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2002 (PMLA)
2) Financial Intelligence Units
3) Enforcement Directorate enforcing PMLA 2002
4) Delhi declaration of Counter Terrorism Committee

The recent amendent to PMLA act will further increase our protection against money laundering.

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10. भारत ने हाल ही में अपना पहला जैविक डेटा केंद्र स्थापित किया है। इसके उद्देश्य और महत्व क्या हैं?

India has recently set up its first Biological Data Centre. What are its objectives and significance? (Answer in 150 words) 10

India has recently setup its first Biological Data Centre in Haryana where data will be stored on super computer Brahm.

Objectives & Significance

1) It will store the biological data collected by all government bodies & will act as a national repository.

2) It will lead to ~~confl~~ availability of all biological data at one place

3) It will lead to fast retreival & processing of data for research purposes

4) It will enhance inter departmental coordination by sharing of data &

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carrying out research collectively.

5) It will provide further impetus to the recent genome project launched in India.

Limitations

1) Privacy concerns due to cybersecurity risks

2) Lack of coordination among ministries

3) Debate of utilising public money for social expenditure or capex.

Despite the challenges, it will further boost the R&D ecosystem in India.

margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. भारत में तीव्र शहरीकरण को देखते हुए, शहरी क्षेत्रों में पूंजी निवेश की बढ़ती मांग को पूरा करने के लिए म्युनिसिपल बॉण्ड्स का उपयोग करना आवश्यक हो गया है। चर्चा कीजिए।
In view of India's rapid urbanisation, it has become imperative to tap into municipal bonds to meet the rising demand of capital investment in urban areas. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

As per World Bank report (2018), 65% ~~housho~~ population of India live in urban areas.

Urbanisation refers to the process of transformation from agrarian economy & low population towards industrial economy & higher population

Municipal bonds as a necessary tool for raising investment

i) Municipal bonds refer to capital market bonds issued by Urban local Bodies (ULBs), to finance their operations.

Bangalore was the city to issue municipal bonds.

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2) Municipal bonds help in raising capital investment as there is always a crunch of funds with ULBs due to low devolution from states.

3) Munipal bonds allow raising investment as per the tailored requirement of different districts & away from one size fit all approach

4) It would give further impetus to 'principle of subsidiarity'.

Challenges with municipal bonds

1) State government do not take guarantee of munipal bonds & thus they are associated with risk.

2) Low repayment capacity of ULBs.

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3) Bureaucratic & political corruption could lead to low confidence in them.

4) Disparity among urban regions where some districts have large proportion of poor population which would reduce the effectiveness of these bonds. Eg - Bastar region of Odisha

Way ahead

1) Maintaining a Special Purpose Vehicle for fund management.

2) Collecting all the funds in a escrow account & ULB can periodically deposit some amount back in them.

3) Guarantee of municipal bonds by state governments.

Municipal bonds effective utilization would help in achieving vision of Amrit kaal.

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12. भारत ने आर्थिक संवृद्धि, महिला शिक्षा और प्रजनन दर जैसे विभिन्न विकास मानदंडों पर महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति हासिल की है। हालांकि, देश की महिला श्रम बल भागीदारी दर (FLFPR) वैश्विक स्तर पर सबसे कम है। चर्चा कीजिए। भारत में FLFPR में सुधार के लिए कौन-से कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?
India has achieved significant strides in various development parameters such as economic growth, women's education, and fertility rates. However, the country's Female Labour Force Participation Rate (FLFPR) remains amongst the lowest in the world. Discuss. What measures can be taken to improve the FLFPR in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15

India has been one of the fastest growing economy at 7.5% growth rate despite global headwinds. This coupled with 65% women literacy (2011 census) & recent TFR of 2 (NFHS-5) have made India one of the leading nations in world.

Despite these achievements, female LFPR has consistently declined since 1990s & is currently 25% (PLFS) [57% for men] which is a matter of concern.

Reasons for low FLFRR

(1) More & more women are opting for

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higher education thus reducing their participation in economy

(2) With rising household incomes, females are opting out of economic activities to take care of homes.

(3) Socio-cultural reasons - India is largely patriarchial where women are discouraged from venturing into public sphere & taking up jobs.

(4) lower literacy among women as compared to men [65% v/s 81%]

(5) Feminization of agriculture which often go unrecognised

(6) Feminization of poverty

(7) Safety issues for women, sexual harassment at workplace etc.

(8) low participation of women in traditionally

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male dominated sectors like STEM, production & manufacturing etc.

Measures to improve FLFPR

1) Schemes to incentivise women entrepreneurship. Eg - Standup India

2) Increasing participation of women in STEM → initiatives like Vigyan Jyoti, CURIE, KIRAN & GATI

3) DAY-NRLM target of organising 10 crore women into SHGs.

4) Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Abhiyan by West Bengal providing soft loans to tribal women.

5) Priority to women in PSL lending.

These steps would ensure all round gender equality (SDG 5).

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13. फसल कटाई के बाद की मूल्य श्रृंखला में अक्षमताओं के कारण लघु और सीमांत किसानों की आजीविका पर अत्यधिक प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ने के साथ-साथ फसल की हानि हो रही है। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए। इन चिंताओं को दूर करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाए हैं?

The inefficiencies in post-harvest value chain are leading to crop losses, with significant adverse impact on the livelihood of small and marginal farmers. Discuss in the context of India. What steps has the government taken to address these concerns? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Economic Survey has highlighted that post harvest losses in India are as high as 40% of total produce which adversely impacts marginal farmers.

Inefficiencies in post-harvest value chain

1) Lack of storage infrastructure (cold storage, godowns etc.)

2) Lack of proper transportation facility from farm to market especially for perishable goods

3) MSP procurement skewed in favour of wheat & rice which leads to their over production & procurement by FCI

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leading to overflow & losses.

4) Fluctuations in market leading to poor price realisation where marginal farmer cannot even recover the input cost leads to dumping of produce

5) Poor functioning of APMC & exploitation by middlemen leaves marginal farmers with little bargaining power

6) Only 6% of small farmers get benefitted from MSP despite 80% procurement as they lack post harvest transport facility & benefits are cornered by rich farmers.

7) Their inefficience leads to falling of marginal farmers into debt trap & vicious cycle of poverty.

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Steps by government to adress these issues

1) Model Agriculture Produce & livestock Marketing Act 2017 which provides a framework for state APMCs

2) PM KISAN (DBT of ₹6000 annually)

3) PM Fasal Bima Yojana (Crop insurance)

4) PM Kisan Sampada Yojana (impetus to food processing industries & creation of mega food parks)

5) Operation Greens - 50% subsidy in transportation & storage cost of tomato, onion, potato.

These steps are necessary for India to ensure both food & nutritional security.

margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

14. ऊर्जा क्षेत्रक के संदर्भ में डीकार्बोनाइजेशन, विकेंद्रीकरण और डिजिटलीकरण की प्रवृत्तियां तेजी से उभर रही हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।
When it comes to the energy sector, the trends of decarbonisation, decentralisation and digitisation are fast emerging. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Energy sector in today's era occupies primary importance for national development.

Decarbonisation of energy sector

1) Adoption of renewable energy as an alternative to fossil fuels

2) NDC of India under Paris agreement to increase the share of non-fossil fuel based energy to 50% of total installed capacity

3) Tripling nuclear capacity by 2023 as part of LT-LEDS

4) Various international agreements like Kyoto protocol, Paris agreement,

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UNFCCC to decarbonise energy sector.

5) LEAD IT initiative of India & Sweden to decarbonize hard to abate industrial sectors.

Decentralisation of energy sector

1) With advent of smart grid, energy sector is decentralising at a fast pace

2) On an international level, various nations are now emerging (like India) whose energy process is becoming comparable to the developed nations.

3) Electricity being a state ~~st~~ subject fosters the spirit of federalism

Digitisation of energy sector

1) Concept of smart grid

margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

2) Using AI to manage electricity in power grids

3) Real time monitoring of power plants & their generation capacity (along with actual generation). 4) Digital/Smart meters

Challenges

1) Non-recognition of common but differentiated responsibility ~~resp~~ principle

2) DDoS attack on Mumbai grid in 2020 (widely believed to be done by China)

3) Persisting gap in productivity & capacity of energy sector in developing & developed countries.

Thus, we need to adopt multiple stakeholder approach to ~~trad~~ truly revolutionize the energy sector & achieve energy security.

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15. भारत में रासायनिक आपदाओं को कम करने संबंधी चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों का समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है?

Discuss the challenges in mitigating chemical disasters in India. How can these challenges be addressed? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Chemical disasters like the Bhopal Gas Tragedy still reminds of the grave implications of chemical disaster in India.

Chemical disaster refers to a disaster where toxic chemicals (like methyl cyanide) are released into open environment & pose a threat to life of humans & other living beings.

Challenges in mitigating chemical disasters

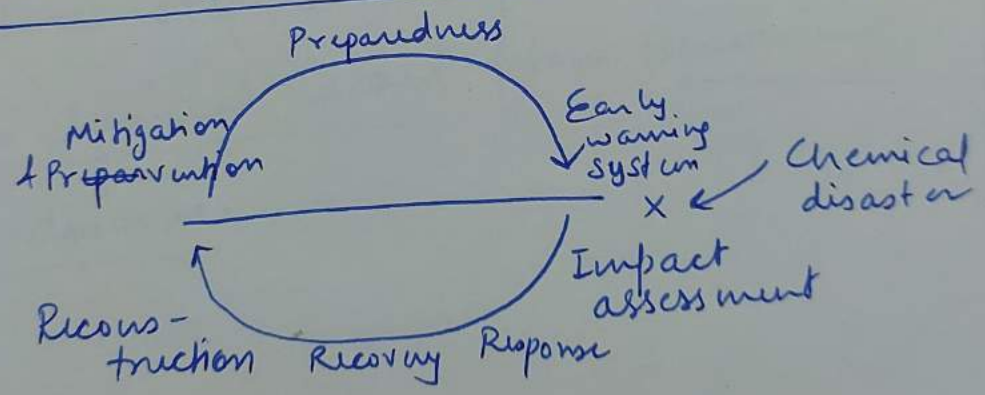
1) Standards are often not followed as set by BIS but the plants still function due to corruption & political ill will.

2) Most cities in India are overpopulated which specifically makes the chemical hazards even more disastrous.

3) Overpopulation has led to establishment of slums even in hazardous areas near industry not meant for habitation.

4) low awareness among people about the risk of chemical disasters.

Addressing these challenges → NDMA guidelines



1) Preventing such disasters from happening by ensuring strict enforcement of compliances.

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2) Increasing awareness among public & capacity building by training & regular mock drills

3) Proper installation of early detection systems in chemical factories to inform in advance.

4) Building disaster resilient infra-structure (Sendai framework)

These steps can help in preventing the chemical hazard from becoming a disaster.

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16. जलवायु क्षतिपूर्ति (क्लाइमेट रेपरेशन) के विचार से आप क्या समझते हैं? इस विचार को वर्तमान संदर्भ में लागू करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। इसके कार्यान्वयन के समक्ष आप क्या चुनौतियां देखते हैं?

What do you understand by the idea of climate reparations? Discuss the need to implement this idea in the current context. What are the challenges you foresee in its implementation? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Climate reparation refers to the idea of rejuvenating & reconstructing the affected climate due to anthropogenic activities.

Need for implementation of this idea

1) Simple mitigation of climate change is no longer sufficient & we need to take active measures for recovery of climate. Eg - 3rd part of AR6 of IPCC talks about mitigation wherein to limit temperature rise ~~from~~ to 1.5°C, the world need to peak GHG emissions by 2025 & ensure 47% reduction by 2030.

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2) The world is actively heading towards various tipping points like ~~artic~~ arctic ice melting which will trigger positive ~~trigger mecha~~ feedback mechanism & threaten future generations.

3) Several small island nations like Maldives, Sri Lanka are already facing the implications of sea level rise.

4) There is a need to move away from human centric approach of environment ~~conves~~ conservation which is ~~deep e~~ shallow ecology towards deep ecology (saving environment for its intrinsic value)

5) Climate change triggers a variety of disasters like heatwaves in India, recent floods in Himachal Pradesh, wildfire in Australia etc

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Challenges in its implementation

1) Balancing between growth & environmental sustainability which are often at loggerheads.

2) Developed countries refusal to recognize the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) as they are the ones responsible for most legacy emissions.

3) low availability on international fora.

Way ahead

1) Recognising the CBDR principle

2) Promotion of renewable sources of energy & phasing out fossil fuels (COP 26)

3) Fulfilling & further upto dating the Nationally Determined Contributions by member nations.

Thus, climate reparations would ensure sustainable development.

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17. अदृश्य युद्ध (इनविजिबल वारफेयर) क्या है? भारत की सुरक्षा के समक्ष उत्पन्न होने वाली चुनौतियों को ध्यान में रखते हुए, अदृश्य युद्ध के खतरे से निपटने के लिए उठाए गए कदमों पर चर्चा कीजिए।
What is invisible warfare? Keeping in view the challenges it poses to India's security, discuss the steps that have been taken to tackle the menace of invisible warfare. (Answer in 250 words) 15

In modern times, invisible warfare ~~refers to~~ has emerged as a potential threat to national security. It refers to use of cyberspace & cyber technology by state & non-state to disrupt national security.

Various facets of invisible warfare

1) Cyberwarfare → Use of computer network & systems to attack

2) Biological warfare → Use of biological weapons (allegations on Covid-19 by China) to threaten national security

3) Economic warfare → Employing cheque book diplomacy to undermine sovereignity of a nation.

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Challenges of invisible warfare for India

1) It is faceless → This kind of warfare is often characterised by anonymity where culprit is hard to catch.

2) Borderless nature → It operates across borders & transcends national boundries

3) Ever evolving technology especially with advent of AI & ML, cybercrimes are on the rise. As per NCRB, India witnessed around 53000 cyber attacks in 2021 costing her $4 billion.

4) Difficult to monitor & prepare for such threats in advance

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Steps taken by India to tackle this menace

1) National Cyber Policy 2013 - Comprehensive framework for securing our cyberspace

2) IT Act 2000 - Enlisting various cyber offences & defining Critical Information Infrastructure

3) IT Rules 2023 for regulation of social media

4) CERT-In to respond to cyber threats immediately

5) Cyber crimes Investigation Cell

Curbing the menace of invisible warfare is essential to ensure national security & holistic development.

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18. भारत की राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा को बनाए रखने में भू-स्थानिक डेटा और संबद्ध तकनीकों के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।
Discuss the significance of geospatial data and associated technologies in safeguarding the national security of India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Geospatial data (such as GIS) provides data about geographical location & topography by integrating different layers like location, physical features, human settlements, topography etc.

Significance of geospatial data in national security

1) Border security - Active ~~surv~~ surveillance on border areas.

2) Energy security - Identify new areas having potential of non-conventional sources of energy (Eg - Geothermal)

3) Economic security - With schemes like SVAMITVA, GIS is used to provide

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land records which can help in better assessment & streamlining schemes by various government departments like health, education etc.

4) Internal security - Geospatial data is helpful in fighting against Left Wing Extremism & North East Insurgency by providing insights on the difficult terrain.

5) Environmental security - Monitoring ecologically sensitive areas (eg - Joshimath subsidence) & provide warning in advance

6) Population analysis by GIS will lead to better implementation of schemes like PDS & helps in reducing leakages.

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Challenges

1) low investment in R&D (0.7% of GDP).

2) Potential misuse of geospatial data by non-state actors through hacking.

3) Use of geospatial data by some neighbouring countries to plan their infiltration on border.

Way ahead

1) More funding in R&D

2) Better infrastructure for safely storing the data

3) Comprehensive regulatory framework on geospatial data

4) Collaboration with other nations on emerging technologies.

These measures will help in ensuring 360° national security of India.

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19. शिक्षा में कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) का अनुप्रयोग पारंपरिक शिक्षण विधियों में कैसे क्रांति ला सकता है और छात्रों के लर्निंग आउटकम्स में सुधार कर सकता है? व्याख्या कीजिए।

How can the application of artificial intelligence (AI) in education revolutionize traditional teaching methods and improve student-learning outcomes? Explain. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Artificial Intelligence refers to the technology mimicking human like intelligence & taking decisions based on previously trained data set.

Application of AI in education

1) It will augment the existing traditional teaching methods by creating smart classrooms.

2) AI can help in devising specific teaching methods for different students as per their needs.

3) AI can help in evolving education content from one size fit all approach to designing textbooks based on local culture

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& history

4) AI can foster learning in vernacular as it can translate existing textbooks into different languages (Eg - BHASHINI)

5) AI can help in smart & holistic ~~evolution of~~ evaluation of children by preventing cheating & assessing students not only on bookish knowledge but other skills as well.

6) AI can lead to decentralisation of education where each student can learn on their own pace

7) AI will address the issue of high teacher to pupil ratio

8) It can revolutionize education & ~~change the way~~ create digitally smart youth.

Challenges

1) Digital divide [49 % population still

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do not have access to internet)

2) Exacerbating social inequalities

3) Privacy concerns as AI collect personal data to improve its performance

4) Possible misuse of AI to disrupt the mental health of children

5) Poor infrastructure for adoption of AI

Way ahead

NEP 2020 envisions a paradigm shift in education policy in India & also recognizes embracing new technologies like AI in a phased manner with proper caution to best utilize its advantages.

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20. भारत में परमाणु प्रौद्योगिकी के विकास में होमी जहांगीर भाभा का योगदान क्या है? क्या आपको लगता है कि भारत को अपनी ऊर्जा सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए परमाणु ऊर्जा के विकास को प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए?

What are the contributions of Homi Jahangir Bhabha in the development of nuclear technology in India? Do you think India should prioritise the development of nuclear energy to ensure its energy security? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Homi Jahangir Bhabha was a visionary who pioneered the nuclear energy program in India & envisioned a 3 phase strategy for nuclear energy development to ensure self sufficiency.

3 - phase nuclear program of Bhabha

It was made keeping in mind the vast thorium reserves in India & lack of uranium.

Stage - I ⇒ Here enriched uranium (U^{235}) would be the main fissile material & U^{238} would be converted to Pu^{239} by absorbing neutron. Pressurized Heavy water reactor is used here.

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Stage-2 ⇒ Pu^{239} is the main fissile material. Fast breeder reactor is used wherein Th^{232} would absorb a neutron to convert to U^{233}. (faster than the fission)

Stage-3 ⇒ U^{233} obtained in 2nd stage will be the fissile material & more Th^{232} would be converted to U^{233} thus becoming self sufficient.

India has reached 2nd stage.

Benefits of nuclear energy

1) It does not contribute to greenhouse gas emissions

2) It is a clean fuel & essential for achieving target of 50% installed capacity by non-fossil fuels (NDC).

3) The calorific value ~~is~~ of fissile uranium is very high as compared to

margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

coal.

Due to these benefits, India has targetted tripling its nuclear energy capacity by 2032.

Challenges with nuclear energy

1) Generation of radioactive waste
2) Hazardous accidents in the past like Chernobyl, Fukushima etc
3) Protest from environmentalists
4) Potential ~~to~~ misuse of fissile material as weapons.

Thus, there is need to be cautious in developing nuclear energy & developing capacity to harness **nuclear fusion** which is a safer & more reliable source of energy